

## Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 SOE-02 AF-10 ARA-10  
CIAE-00 DODE-00 EA-10 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03  
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FM USMISSION GENEVA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7076  
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 03814

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PARM, CCD  
SUBJECT: CCD: RELATIONSHIP OF CCD SCHEDULE TO SSOD  
PREPCOM AND US-USSR CHEMICAL WEAPONS BILATERALS

1. IN VIEW OF THE PLANS BY MANY CCD DELS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE FINAL SSOD PREPCOM NOW SCHEDULED FOR APRIL 4-21, THERE IS GROWING SENTIMENT IN THE CCD FOR RECESSING, OR POSSIBLY EVEN ENDING, THE SPRING SESSION BY MARCH 31. AN EXCEPTION IS THE SOVIET REP (LIKHATCHEV) WHO HAS NOT BEEN INVOLVED WITH THE PREPARATION FOR THE SSOD AND HAS ARGUED IN PRIVATE THAT THE BUSINESS IN OTHER FORA, SUCH AS THE SSOD PREPCOMS, SHOULD NOT INFLUENCE THE CCD SCHEDULE. IF THE CCD IS UNABLE TO REACH CONSENSUS AGREEMENT TO RECESS OR END THE CURRENT SESSION ON MARCH 31, IT WILL PROBABLY BE DUE TO INTRANSIGENCE ON THE PART OF THE SOVIETS OR THEIR EASTERN EUROPEAN SURROGATES. SHOULD THE CCD REMAIN IN SESSION DURING THE FINAL SSOD PREPCOM, IT IS LIKELY THAT A NUMBER OF DELEGATIONS WILL HAVE ONLY TOKEN REPRESENTATION AND, THEREFORE, THERE WOULD BE LITTLE ACTIVITY.

2. SINCE MANY KEY ISSUES OF DIRECT RELEVANCE TO THE CCD,  
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INCLUDING DISCUSSIONS ON ITS FUTURE, ARE APT TO COME TO A HEAD DURING THE FINAL PREPCOM, IT WOULD SEEM ADVISABLE FOR AMBASSADOR FISHER TO ATTEND THE PREPCOM RATHER THAN REMAIN AT THE CCD. IF FISHER INFORMS LIKHATCHEV THAT HE WILL BE ATTENDING FINAL PREPCOM, REGARDLESS OF WHETHER CCD RECESSES OR NOT, LIKHATCHEV WILL PROBABLY BE MORE LIKELY TO AGREE TO RECESS.

3. A PROBLEM REMAINS AS TO THE IMPACT OF POSSIBLE CCD RECESS ON WORKING GROUP FOR COMPREHENSIVE PROGRAM OF DISARMAMENT WHICH WAS ESTABLISHED MARCH 2. TRADITIONAL POSITION IS THAT WORKING GROUPS SHOULD ONLY FUNCTION WHEN CCD IS IN SESSION. SIMILARLY, PROBLEM EXISTS WITH RESPECT TO SPECIAL REPORT OF CCD TO SSOD ON THE STATE OF VARIOUS QUESTIONS UNDER CONSIDERATION BY CONFERENCE. ANTICIPATED SECRETARIAT WILL HAVE DRAFT AVAILABLE BY END OF MARCH. THESE TWO PROBLEMS SUGGEST POSSIBLE ADVISABILITY OF CCD'S NOT RECESSING BUT LEAVING RELAXED SCHEDULE DURING THREE WEEKS OF PREPCOM.

4. ANOTHER CONSIDERATION IS THE US-USSR BILATERALS ON CHEMICAL WEAPONS. THE CURRENT ROUND OF NEGOTIATIONS CONTINUES AT A SLOW PACE IN THE ABSENCE OF THE EXPERTS FROM BOTH SIDES WHO HAVE RETURNED TO CAPITALS FOR CONSULTATIONS. THERE IS NO FIXED DATE FOR THE CW EXPERTS' RETURN OR FOR REACTIVATING THE PACE OF THE NEGOTIATIONS, ALTHOUGH THERE WAS TENTATIVE AGREEMENT THAT THIS MIGHT TAKE PLACE LATE IN MARCH. WE SEE TWO FEASIBLE ALTERNATIVES:

A. THE CW EXPERTS COULD RETURN ON MARCH 28. PLENARY MEETINGS WOULD BE SCHEDULED ON MARCH 29 AND 31 AFTER WHICH AMBASSADOR FISHER WOULD DEPART FOR THE PREPCOM AND THE CW NEGOTIATIONS WOULD CONTINUE MAINLY IN THE DRAFTING GROUP

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(ALTERNATE HEADS OF DELS PLUS EXPERTS). AFTER THE FINAL PREPCOM, AMBASSADOR FISHER WOULD RETURN TO GENEVA FOR THE FINAL TWO WEEKS OF NEGOTIATIONS, WITH THE ROUND ENDING ON MAY 5, OR THEREABOUT.

B. THE INCREASED PACE OF CW NEGOTIATIONS, WITH EXPERT PARTICIPATION, COULD BE DELAYED UNTIL AFTER THE SSOD PREPCOM (I.E., AFTER APRIL 21). THE PRESENT ROUND MIGHT BE REACTIVATED ON APRIL 24 AND CONTINUE FOR THREE WEEKS, ENDING ON MAY 12.

5. AT THE MOMENT, IT IS PROBABLE THAT THE CCD WILL DECIDE TO RECESS MARCH 31, TO ALLOW PREPCOM PARTICIPATION, AND RESUME THE SPRING SESSION ON APRIL 25 FOR TWO OR THREE WEEKS.

6. IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, AMBASSADOR FISHER INTENDS TO INFORM LIKHACHEV AT AN EARLY DATE OF HIS PLANS TO ATTEND THE FINAL SSOD PREPCOM. WITH REGARD TO THE CCD, USDEL INTENDS TO INDICATE FLEXIBILITY. WITH RESPECT TO US-USSR CW BILATERALS, USDEL RECOMMENDS THAT U.S. PROPOSE TO SOVIETS THAT PRESENT ROUND BE RESUMED WITH PARTICIPATION

OF EXPERTS ON APRIL 24, BUT INDICATE THAT U.S. WOULD BE  
PREPARED TO PROCEED AS INDICATED IN PARA 3A, ABOVE, IF THE  
SOVIETS PREFER THAT ALTERNATIVE.  
VANDEN HEUVEL

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## Message Attributes

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